

St. Jones Reserve trail in Dover temporarily closed due to storm damage

Trails in parks, wildlife areas and DNERR's Blackbird Creek Reserve remain open

DOVER, Del. – The trail at the St. Jones [Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve](#) (DNERR) near Dover is temporarily closed past the first marsh boardwalk as a result of damage caused by Monday's severe storms.

A University of Delaware-operated [weather station](#) at the reserve measured a peak wind gust of 67.9 miles per hour just before 4 p.m. Monday. Numerous trees fell across the trail that connects to the adjoining Ted Harvey Conservation Area. Staff have worked to clear the trees and will need to perform repairs to the boardwalk, which could take a few weeks. A small greenhouse on the reserve was also destroyed by a fallen tree.

"Many people enjoy getting out and walking the trail at St. Jones, especially lately," said Dayna Cobb, Director of DNREC's Division of Climate, Coastal & Energy. "But the safety of visitors is our primary concern, and so much of the trail will be closed until repairs are completed."

For those looking for alternatives, state parks and wildlife areas remain open, as well as the trails at DNERR's Blackbird Creek Reserve near Townsend.

While most state parks, nature and wildlife areas continue to stay open for Delawareans, many amenities, including restrooms, are closed. Individuals who visit state properties are required to engage in responsible social distancing practices, avoiding groupings of people.

About DNREC

The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control protects and manages the state's natural resources, protects public health, provides outdoor recreational opportunities and educates Delawareans about the environment. For more information, visit the [website](#) and connect with DNREC on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#).

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